

STATE OF MICHIGAN



Executive
Office

Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor

CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

On behalf of the citizens of Michigan, Governor Jennifer M. Granholm
hereby proclaims October, 2003, as

Michigan Farm Market Month

Whereas, Each fall, citizens throughout Michigan and beyond, look forward to visiting our farm markets to enjoy the locally grown products from the current year's bountiful harvest; and,

Whereas, Michigan's fresh water supply, unique geographic location, rich and varied soil types, and dedicated producers make our state a leader in both the production of an abundant array of Select Michigan crops, and agricultural tourism opportunities; and,

Whereas, Our state's farm markets outnumber those in any other state and provide a vital link between our state's farmers and the consumers who benefit from a strong, viable agricultural industry; and,

Whereas, Autumn is an ideal time to visit farm markets as they provide consumers with a variety of delicious Michigan produce and other items such as apples and apple cider, jams and jellies, fruit pies, donuts, caramel apples, squash, cabbage, tomatoes, peaches, fresh and dried flowers, pumpkins wagon rides, Indian corn, corn mazes, gourds, and other educational, tourism and value-added opportunities; and,

Whereas, It is important to recognize the food and agriculture industry as Michigan's second-largest industry, contributing over \$37 billion dollars to our state's economy each year; and that with each local food purchase our communities and family farmers are strengthened by more dollars going directly to local growers and the area's economy, and the state's rich farmland is preserved; and,

Whereas, Michigan Farm Market Month is a special time to acknowledge and recognize the vast, integrated network of family farmers, processors, wholesalers, retailers, and consumers who work to ensure a safe and nutritious food supply that is enjoyed by many throughout our state and nation; and now therefore be it,

Resolved, That I, Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor of the State of Michigan, do hereby proclaim October, 2003, as Farm Market Month in Michigan.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer M. Granholm'.

Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor